

Press Release

March 18, 2013
University Marketing & Communications
905-688-5550 x4687

Brock experts available to speak on water issues in advance of World Water Day (March 22)

Water, water everywhere! Or is there?

Canada has the reputation of being a "water-rich" country with a seemingly endless supply of water.

But climate change, underpricing and poor policies are some of the factors putting a dent into this image. In Canada - and, indeed, around the world - water is becoming a scarcer and scarcer resource, increasingly in need of protection.

This coming Friday, March 22, is the United Nations' World Water Day; the UN has named 2013 as the International Year of Water Co-operation.

Brock University is at the epicentre of water policy and economics research.

Last year, the Canadian government granted Brock \$2.3 million to set up a network of Canadian researchers to look at the economic, political and social aspects of water-related issues.

Leading this group - called the Water Economics, Policy and Governance Network (WEPGN) - is economics professor Steven Renzetti. One of the many members of the group is associate politics professor Tim Heinmiller.

Renzetti and Heinmiller are available for interviews for coverage of World Water Day or anything related to water governance and economics:

Renzetti can speak to the economics of water resources such as:

- * water shortages in Canadian regions (despite the perception that Canada is a "water-rich" country)
- * underpricing of water, which leads to increasing water use levels that could cause shortages in the long run
- * what influences households' and businesses' water use
- * incentives (such as water prices) that will promote efficient and sustainable water use

Contact: 905-688-5550 x3121; srenzetti@brocku.ca

Heinmiller can speak to the geopolitical aspects of water in North America such as:

- * water policies in the Great Lakes and Prairie regions
- * Canada-U.S. relations regarding governance of the Great Lakes
- * challenges in forming and implementing policies to protect water

Contact: 905-688-5550 x4232; theinmiller@brocku.ca

For assistance in setting up interviews: Cathy Majtenyi, research communications/media relations specialist, Brock University, 905-688-5550 x5789; 905-321-0566 (cell #); cmajtenyi@brocku.ca

-30-